WIND POWERING AMERICA

America's Wind Power . . . A National Resource

The Wind Powering America initiative is a regionally-based effort to increase the use of clean wind energy in the United States over the next two decades. The Initiative challenges the nation to meet five percent of our electricity needs by the year 2020 with wind power, triple the number of states with significant wind power capacity, and increase the federal government's use of wind generated electricity to 5 percent by 2010.

WIND ENERGY PROGRAM

OFFICE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY
& RENEWABLE ENERGY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Helping States Harvest A New Crop

Enron Wind Corp., Lloyd Herziger PIX09641

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) Wind Energy Program is helping to bring the message of economic opportunity through wind resource development to American farmers, Native Americans, and other rural landowners in states throughout the country. In Lake Benton, Minnesota, the fifth generation of farmers to earn a living from land owned by their family since 1884 were barely making a living and were prepared to sell their homestead. Instead, wind power developed on their property is providing them with over $40,000 in revenue. This "windfall" has allowed them to do two things for the first time in generations-become debt free and save for retirement. The Lake Benton farm is not the only farm saved through wind power development. Wind power development is leading to private investment, purchases of new homes, payments for college tuition, and public infrastructure investment in small communities nationwide.

Wind power represents a major economic opportunity for the United States. Wind Powering America will help meet the growing demand for energy and help establish new sources of income for American farmers, Native Americans, and other rural landowners. The Wind Powering America Initiative also provides the technological and institutional support needed to ensure the competitiveness of wind energy. Support activities include:

- State-level workshops
- State wind resource maps
- State-based anemometer loan program
- Federal use of wind-generated power
- Public power and rural cooperatives use of wind energy
- Native American outreach
- Small wind turbine program
- Using wind energy projects to mitigate air quality violation penalties
- Earth Day activities
- Regional wind Web sites.

What is Wind Powering America?

A commitment to dramatically increase the use of wind energy in the United States:

- Establish new sources of income for American farmers, Native Americans, and other rural landowners
- Meet the growing demand for clean sources of electricity

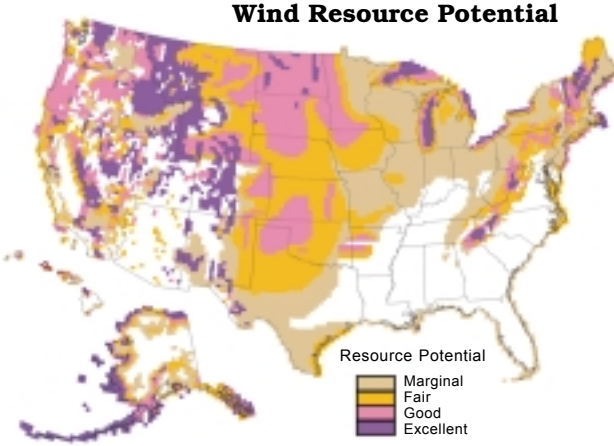
Goals

- Provide at least 5% of the nation's electricity by 2020
- Double the number of states with more than 20 megawatts of wind capacity to 16 by 2005, and triple that number to 24 by 2010
- Increase wind's contribution to Federal electricity use to 5% (1,000 MW) by 2010

Benefits

- $60 billion in capital investment in rural America over 20 years
- $1.2 billion in new income for American farmers, Native Americans, and rural landowners over 20 years
- $8 billion in annual capital investment in 2020
- 80,000 permanent jobs in the wind industry in 2020
- 35 million tons of atmospheric carbon displaced in 2020

Wind Resource Potential



Almost every region in the United States, from Anchorage to Albuquerque and Vermont to the Virgin Islands, has areas suitable for wind energy development. Some states, particularly in the Great Plains from Texas to North Dakota, have significant wind energy potential. An increasing number of energy consumers can also buy wind generated power, even if it is not generated locally.

Wind turbines come in different sizes for different applications

Wind turbines are available in a variety of sizes. The largest machines produce enough electricity to power almost 1,500 homes. Smaller wind turbines are capable of supplying the power requirements of an all-electric home or small business.

For general information regarding wind power, please contact:

U.S. Department of Energy Wind Program/
Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
www.eren.doe.gov/wind

National Renewable Energy Laboratory/
National Wind Technology Center
www.nrel.gov/wind

American Wind Energy Association
www.awea.com

National Wind Coordinating Committee
www.nationalwind.org

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The Department of Energy researches, develops and deploys clean, efficient, and renewable energy technologies to help meet America's energy needs while protecting the environment and strengthening the economy.

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